UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/26312
17 August 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 16 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ARMENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you a letter dated 14 August 1993 addressed to you by H.E. Mr. Vahan Papazian, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Armenia.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alexander ARZOUMANIAN
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 14 August 1993 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Armenia addressed to the Secretary-General

The recent events that have taken place on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border compel me to appeal to you.

On 13 August, from 5.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m., the Azerbaijani armed forces, using all types of weapons and with unprecedented intensity, bombarded the Armenian towns and villages of the Tavush and Ijevan regions in the north-eastern part of Armenia. In the Tavush region, the villages of Paravakar, Nerkin Karmiraghpiur, Movses, Aygedzor, Aygepar, Tovuz, Chinar, and Berd regional centre were all subjected to heavy bombardment. As a result, 3 high-rise buildings and 13 homes were destroyed in the regional centre. There was substantial damage in all the other above-mentioned villages. From the civilian population, four were injured, one critically. Close to 22 hectares of grain crop were destroyed, and a large number of agricultural vehicles damaged beyond repair. There is widespread destruction in the Kayanavan and Sevkar villages of Ijevan region. The same day, the Yerazkh and Sevakavan villages of Ararat region were also subjected to bombardment from the territory of the Republic of Nakhijevan. The Armenian side has not responded.

These unprecedented offensives by the Azerbaijani side once again testify to the fact that some circles in the Azerbaijani Government have not resigned their futile and myopic policy of drawing Armenia into a large-scale war and through it exacerbating the ongoing conflict in the region.

Parallel to this, we have received information that the military activities in the vicinity of the Markaterk and Hadrut regions of Nagorny Karabakh have been intensified, and the Hadrut region from the direction of Fizuli region is being shelled and attacked. There are also attacks on the humanitarian corridor linking Armenia to Nagorny Karabakh.

These provocative operations make us think that, despite the first steps of the Baku-Stepanakert dialogue, Azerbaijan continues its policy of imposing a military solution to the Nagorny Karabakh conflict. Obviously, these operations jeopardize all the efforts of the Minsk Group of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) for the peaceful resolution of the conflict, something which deeply concerns the leadership of the Government of Armenia.

Remaining truthful to the principles of peaceful resolution, the Armenian authorities have refrained from responding in kind. However, in the event of the persistence of the operations, the Government of Armenia reserves the right to take appropriate actions to eliminate the threat to its territorial integrity and the security of its people, the consequences of which fall entirely upon the leadership of Azerbaijan.

I would like to reiterate once again the sincere commitment of the Armenian authorities to contribute to the efforts of the Minsk Group for the political resolution of the conflict.

(Signed) Vahan PAPAZIAN